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UC Teacher Denies He's 'CIA Lackey'

Dr. Gleb Struve, chairman of the University of California's Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, denied Soviet charges yesterday that he acted as a "super-lackey" for the CIA.

The 69-year-old Russian-born Struve not only is one of the world's top authorities on Russian literature but also is co-publisher of Inter-Language Associates, which publishes works of Russian authors of the last 50 years.

Some of the literary works published by the organization are books never printed in Russia, or if published, they are heavily abridged.

"I have done nothing anti-Soviet on a political level," Struve said before hurrying off to a class. "I don't know what they're referring to. Of course, they don't like some of the things I say in my literary criticism, but I do not engage in any political writing.

"I have not had any association with the CIA. My books have not been published for the CIA. My books have been published for outstanding Russian writers."

Struve said the only other time he has been officially criticized by the Soviet government was 20 years ago when a book he wrote on Russian literature was described as "slander in the guise of scholarship" in a Russian-English newspaper.

The son of a pre-revolutionary cabinet member, Struve left Russia in 1918; studied at Oxford University and then was a writer and critic for publications in Czechoslovakia, Germany and France. He joined the faculty of the University of London in 1943 and came to the University of California as visiting lecturer in Russian three years later. He joined the Berkeley faculty in 1946.